(c) what are the obstacles in inducting the above aircrafts into the Indian Air Force?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) The Indian Air Force propose to procure IL-78 Flight Refuelling Aircraft (FRA). These will be delivered by December, 2003.

(b) It would not be in the interest of national security to disclose this information.

(c) There are no obstacles.

Propriety of Decorating Tainted Officer

794. SHRI C.O. POULOSE : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Air Marshal M.S. Sekhon was presented the Param Vishisht Seva Medal;

(b) whether it is also true that Shri Sekhon was made to retire prematurely after the revelation of his seeking political help for his career promotion;

(c) if so, whether there is any impropriety in decorating such tainted officers with such prestigious awards; and

(d) comment of Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) Air Marshal M. S. Sekhon had put in distinguished service of over 39 years, during which he was awarded Vir Chakra, Vishisht Medal (Gallantry) and Shaurya Chakra. His single act of indiscretion was not ignored and he was immediately removed from Southern Air Command and retired compulsorily. However, considering his life time achievement and distinguished service of most exceptional order to the Indian Air Force and to the nation, he was allowed to receive the PVSM award.

Proposal for Amending Human Rights Act

795. DR. ABRAR AHMED:

SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received proposals for amending Human Rights Act;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO) : (a) to (c) The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has suggested amendments to the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993. The matter is under examination.

All Women Police Stations

796. SHRI B.J. PANDA :
SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the States in which All-women Police Stations have been opened with nature of cases entrusted to them, especially relating to women; and

(b) what is feedback of performance of All-women Police Station opened in Bhubaneswar in Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI) : (a) Police is a State subject as per the Constitution of India. As such, it is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments to establish women police stations as per their requirements. As per the information available with the Bureau of Police Research and Development, the number of women police stations in the country, State-wise as on 1-1-2001 is given in the Statement (*See* below).

The nature of cases entrusted to these police station relating to women covers :—

(i) Dowry death,

(ii) Dowry torture

(iii) Non-dowry torture

(iv) Rape

(v) Kidnapping/abduction

(vi) Outraging of modesty

(vii) Eve-teasing etc.

(b) As per the information provided by the State Government of Orissa, an all women police station at Bhubaneswar has been established on 04-08-2002 and it has been functioning well.

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